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REPRESENTATION OF SLANG IN AMERICAN ENGLISH

So many works exist based on the slang notion but this lexical phenomenon may never cease its development. In this short investigation we will give a quick representation of slang in American English and also provide few examples of the slang lexemes.

Key words: slang, American slang, coining, Americanism.

Currenttheories show the great importance and significant usage of American slang and the great influence Americanism has on English speakers. Everyone knows that America is a New World and its being so young and developed, enchanted many European, Asian scientists, writers, professors and many other intelligent people come here and examine it and start a new life here, therefore living here these brilliant people transformed the country to a better state and they surely transplanted their culture, giving new colors to this nowadays world leader country and made modification in the language borrowing from their countries without perceiving the invention of slang [1].

The United States has become the land of opportunity, entertainment and the land of freedom. Many people of different nationalities took part in creation of this country starting from cultivating lands and making inventions and innovations and the absence of names of newly invented words became the reason of creating Americanisms and American Slang that have a great role in Modern English.

In surveying American slang, not only do we have to consider the social factors which influence slang, but we must recognize the part played by slang in its own character. However, the complexity of slang is immediately apparent when we examine its function.

Numerous investigations have shown that the most marked peculiarities of American English are to be found in slang and substandard language. Quite a few, nevertheless, are typical of standard speech and are accepted as literally norms in the USA.

This work is an attempt to study Americanisms and American Slang, and show the vitality of their usage in America. These two phenomena give uniqueness to American

English and it is known to everyone that Americanisms are <u>words</u>, <u>expressions</u>, or other <u>features</u> that are characteristic of <u>American</u> English.

American slang is a product of society, it is produced and created by people who live in it. It is one of the linguistic features and varieties, which we cannot separate from its social background and social surroundings.

The process of coining new lexical items started as soon as the colonists began borrowing names for unfamiliar flora, fauna, and topography from the <u>Native American</u> <u>languages</u>.Examples of such names are <u>opossum</u>, <u>raccoon</u>, <u>squash</u> and <u>moose</u> (from <u>Algonquian</u>). Other Native American loanwords, such as <u>wigwam</u> or <u>moccasin</u>, describe articles in common use among Native Americans. The languages of the other colonizing nations also added to the American vocabulary; <u>angst</u>, <u>kindergarten</u>, <u>sauerkraut</u> from <u>German</u>, <u>levee</u>, portage ("carrying of boats or goods") and (probably) <u>gopher</u> from <u>French</u>; <u>barbecue</u>, <u>stevedore</u>, and <u>rodeo</u> from <u>Spanish</u> [3, 46 p.].

It's natural that English is not spoken with uniformity in the USA, on the British Isles, in Australia and in New Zealand, etc. Careful examination, nonetheless, reveals that these varieties are essentially different in character. Only two have their literary standards, i.e. their own generally accepted norms of speaking and writing- British English and American English.

American linguist, H.L. Mencken [2], speaks of two separate languages with a steady flood of linguistic influence first from Britain to America (1914) and since then from America to the British Isles. He even proclaims that the American influence on British English is so powerful that there will come time when the American standard will be established in Britain. Other linguists regard the language of the USA as a dialect of English.

Slang, profoundly considered is the lawless germinal element, below all words and sentences, and behind all poetry, and proves a certain freedom and perennial rankness and Protestantism in speech. Slang is an attempt of common humanity to escape from bald literalism, and express itself illimitably, which in highest walks produces poets and poems, and doubtless in pre-historic times gave the start to, and perfected, the whole immense tangle of the old mythologies.

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